

## AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1-14. Cancelled

15. (Original) A method for treating, reducing, or preventing a cardiac disorder in a mammal, said method comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of FADD or an anti-inflammatory FADD inhibitor.

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~14~~ or 15, wherein said cardiac disorder is a result of a chronic ischemia injury, an acute ischemia injury, an ischemia-reperfusion injury, a myocardial infarction, myocarditis, heart failure, cardiac transplantation, or an autoimmune disorder.

17-19. Cancelled.

20. (Currently amended) The method of ~~any one of claims~~ claim ~~3, 5, 15, or 18,~~ wherein said anti-inflammatory FADD inhibitor is a nucleic acid encoding a dominant negative FADD protein.

21. (Currently amended) The method of ~~any one of claims~~ claim ~~3-5, 14, 15, 17,~~ ~~or 18,~~ wherein said mammal is a human.

22-28. Cancelled.

29. (Original) A human cardiomyocyte expressing a dominant negative FADD protein.

30. (Original) A human cardiomyocyte expressing a recombinant FADD protein.

31-41. Cancelled.

42. (Original) A method for identifying a candidate compound for treating, reducing, or preventing cardiac inflammation in a mammal, said method comprising:

(a) contacting a cardiomyocyte expressing a FADD gene with a candidate compound; and

(b) measuring FADD gene expression or FADD protein activity in said a cardiomyocyte, a candidate compound that reduces said expression or said activity, relative to FADD expression or activity in a cardiomyocyte not contacted with said candidate compound, identifying said candidate compound as a candidate compound useful for treating, reducing, or preventing cardiac inflammation.

43-44. Cancelled.

45. (Original) A method for identifying a candidate compound for treating, reducing, or preventing a cardiac disorder, said method comprising:

(a) contacting a cardiomyocyte expressing a FADD gene with a candidate compound; and

(b) measuring FADD gene expression or FADD protein activity in said a cardiomyocyte, a candidate compound that reduces said expression or said activity, relative to FADD expression or activity in a cardiomyocyte not contacted with said candidate compound, identifying said candidate compound as a candidate compound useful for treating, reducing, or preventing said cardiac disorder.

46. (Currently amended) The method of any one of claims ~~41-45~~ 42 or 45, wherein said FADD gene is a FADD fusion gene.

47. (Currently amended) The method of any one of claims ~~41-45~~ 42 or 45, wherein step (b) comprises measuring expression of FADD mRNA or protein.

48. (Currently amended) The method of any one of claims ~~41-45~~ 42 or 45, wherein said cardiomyocyte is a mammalian cell.

49. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein said mammalian cell is a rodent cell.

50. Cancelled.

51. (Original) A method for identifying a candidate compound for treating, reducing, or preventing cardiac inflammation, said method comprising:

- (a) contacting FADD protein with a candidate compound; and
- (b) determining whether said candidate compound binds said FADD protein, a candidate compound that binds said FADD protein being a candidate compound useful for treating, reducing, or preventing cardiac inflammation.

52-53. Cancelled.

54. A method for identifying a candidate compound for treating, reducing, or preventing cardiac disorder, said method comprising:

- (a) contacting FADD protein with a candidate compound; and
- (b) determining whether said candidate compound binds said FADD protein, a candidate compound that binds said FADD protein being a candidate compound useful for treating, reducing, or preventing said cardiac disorder.

55. (Currently amended) The method of claim 41, 42, ~~43, 44~~, 45, ~~50~~, 51, ~~52, 53~~, or 54, wherein said FADD is human FADD.

56-64. Cancelled.